

# HOMECOMING

# The Elba Clipper

Volume 128, Number 17 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, September 12, 2024 1 Section, 10 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

## Elba BOE plans interviews with four finalists for superintendent of schools

On Thursday, Sept. 5, Elba City Board of Education president Johnny Senn released the names of candidates to be interviewed by the board for the open superintendent of schools position.

According to a press release provided by the board president, the interviews will be conducted Monday, Sept. 16, at the central office of the Elba City Schools campus. The interviews are to be open to the public.

The press release named four candidates for the job. They are: Gary Coleman, Donny Powell, Ben-

nie Shellhouse, and Marcus Taylor.

Interview times are 9-10 a.m. for Coleman; 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. for Powell; 1:30 - 2:30 for Shellhouse; and 3-4 p.m. for Taylor.

Requests by The Elba Clipper to the board president and board attorney for additional background information on the candidates, including qualifications and/or current employment/administrative positions went unanswered prior to press time this week.

An internet search on the candidates showed Cole- man listed as the principal of Highland Home School in Crenshaw County; Powell listed as a former principal of Flora High School in Covington County; Shellhouse listed as principal of Goshen High School in Pike County; and Taylor listed as principal of Brantley School in Crenshaw County.

According to last week's press release, the Elba City Board of Education will hold a meeting Tuesday, Sept. 17, at 5:30 p.m. at the central office "to select a candidate for the position of superintendent."

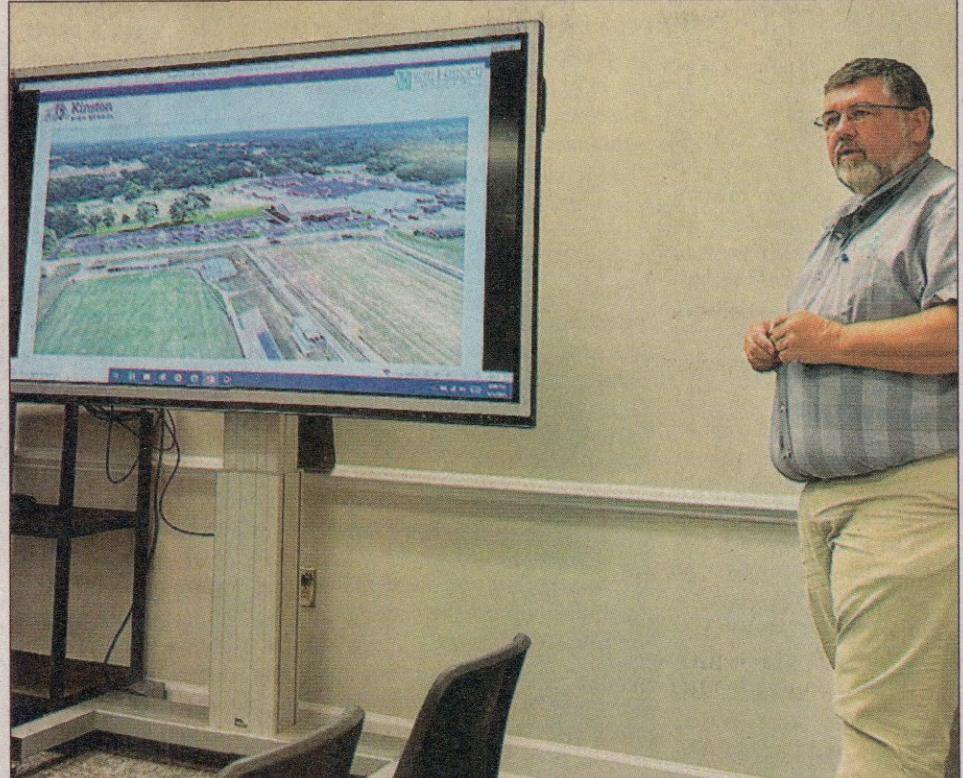
## Coffee County officials issue reminder for upcoming 'office hours' schedule change

Effective Monday, Sept. 30, the Coffee County Probate Office, Coffee County Revenue Commissioner's Office, Coffee County Commission Office, Environmental Services Office, the Maintenance Department, and the Sheriff's administrative office personnel will move to a 4/10 work schedule. The offices named above will be open Monday - Thursday from 7:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. with thirty minutes allotted for lunch. All of the above offices will be closed on Fridays.

The Sheriff's Office law enforcement personnel, Jail, Dispatch, Landfill, Roll Off, Residential Collection, and Senior Centers will not be affected by this schedule change.

The courthouses will remain open to the public on Fridays, and security will be provided.

This change does not impact state offices located at a courthouse or other county facilities, such as Circuit Court, District Court, the Circuit Clerk, the Juvenile Probation Office, Board of Registrars, Veterans Affairs, or Absentee Voting. These offices will remain open on Fridays.



Ben McKee with McKee and Associates architects of Montgomery, Alabama is shown Thursday evening, Sept. 5, presenting proposed plans for a new multi-purpose center to be constructed on the Kinston Schools campus to Coffee County Board of Education members. Following the presentation, board members voted to move forward with seeking bids for the construction project. The building would include a physical education gymnasium, a storm shelter, and extra classrooms. The advertisement to bid in in today's paper.

## Elba City Council votes to seek bids for garbage pickup

During the Elba City Council meeting held Monday evening, Sept. 9, council members approved a motion to send out bids for contracting the city's garbage pickup services. City clerk Sally Bane said the purpose of the motion is to solicit bids to see if it would be cost beneficial to contract those services rather than the city continuing to handle the garbage pickup in-house.

"Just because the council is putting this out to bid does not mean they have to approve any once the bids are received," Bane said. "If the council does not like the bids it receives for the services, they can reject all and not approve any." Council members approved a Right of Entry Agreement with Verizon for a lot owned by the city across from the Dorsey manufacturing facility on Hickman Avenue. Bane said this agreement would provide the company looking to install a communications tower for Verizon to gain access to the property to test it as a potential site for the tower.

Also, during the meeting, the city clerk noted the Alabama Legislature had passed this year a Municipal Officials Training Act. She said this act mandates those holding municipal offices [mayors and city council persons] to attend training each year in office. Bane said she thought this information was important to pass along as the city has entered an election year for municipal offices, and those seeking election should be aware of the new mandate for training via this state approved act.

Council members approved a new district plan for the city via an ordinance. That ordinance must be published in the news-

paper before it takes effect.

The next Elba City Council meeting will be Monday, Sept. 23, at 5:30 p.m. at Elba City Hall.

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## EDITORIAL



## Elba Police Report

This report reflects activity for the Elba Police Department from Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2024, through Monday, Sept. 9, 2024, as reported to the Coffee County 911 Dispatch Center – Tuesday, Sept. 3 –

## Terry Spicer Insulation

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## The Elba Clipper

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Ricky Mularz - SPORTS

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year  
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax  
Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax  
6 months - \$13  
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

## Summer cooling costs got you down?

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Saving money doesn't have to be difficult. Keep your thermostat at 78° and use fans to circulate the air. Follow these tips and keep more of your money this summer.

ELBA  
Water & Electric  
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Jane Brunson, Chairman  
Tom Maddox, Superintendent

78°  
LIVING ROOM

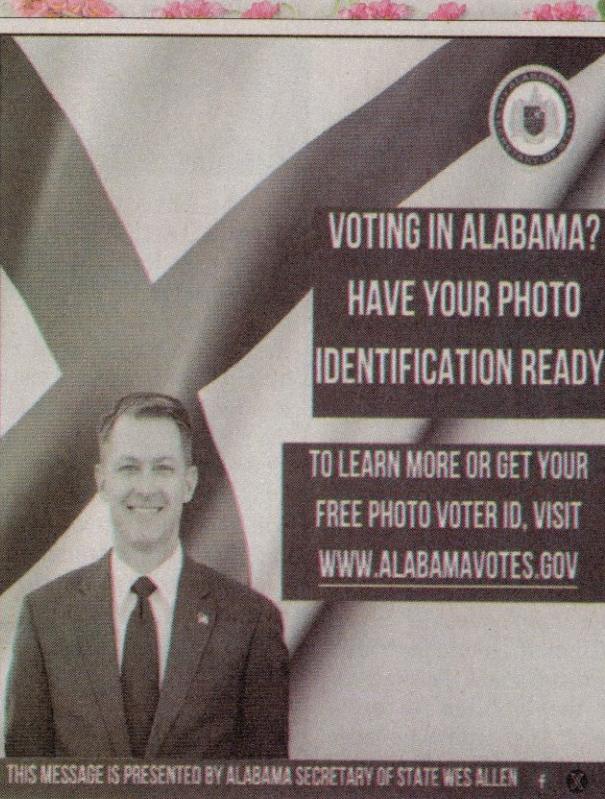
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CHRIS FOLEY - OWNER



following day...well...that does not mean a decision must be made too quickly! If the board needs time to take a step back to think about things, and really consider the options, there is no extreme hurry. Things are in good hands right now under the leadership of the acting superintendent! We have no quarrel with keeping things as they are until all feel the best person has been found for the full time job!!

On another note...it's homecoming week in Elba, and love is being shown all around town at night as yards are rolled with toilet paper - a tradition around here. If you are running low on TP for the house, we encourage you to go buy some before the kiddos get it all this week!!

Share Your  
Views...Write  
a Letter to  
the Editor

## Windy Thoughts

with Linda Hodge, Editor

First and foremost, we want to offer thanks and kudos to the group of men from the Elba Volunteer Fire Department that took time one morning last week to cut the grass and clean up the old Burger King parking lot in downtown Elba! We stopped by that morning after they had finished the work to offer our personal thanks to them. These men are truly servants of the community, and they chose to do this particular service for their community because they too wanted the area to look nice for Elba's Homecoming this week! Again, we say THANK YOU to these men!!!

It has been pointed out to us since the Burger King lot got its fresh cut that the Ringsdorff monument located in the "Y" just down from the old Burger King building also is in dire need of weeds being pulled from the flower bed surrounding that POW monument. This is a nice monument dedicated to one of Elba's own, and it too needs to be taken care of by the city! We had not noticed it prior to receiving a phone call regarding it, probably because our attention was mostly focused on the Burger King lot mess, but the citizen that called us is correct...it does need some work. Let's keep an eye on it, and make sure it is getting the care it deserves as well.

Now, let's talk about the search for the next superintendent of Elba City Schools. We were provided a list last Thursday morning of four finalist candidates that had been chosen to be interviewed for the position. That press release sent to us by Johnny Senn, president of the board, only contained the names of the candidates and the times each would be interviewed Monday, Sept. 16th. The paper had already printed for the week, so, we went to the internet and posted the release on The Elba Clipper's website, and then we shared it on our Facebook page. Soon, we were asked from citizens within the community to provide more details on the candidates to allow the public an opportunity to learn more about each prior to the interviews (which, by the way, are open to the public). Promptly, on Thursday, we requested more background information on the candidates (i.e. - education qualifications, current employment, etc.) to provide to the community. The response we received was, "I will get with Mr. Shirley [board attorney] first thing in the morning and let you know something." We thanked him and waited. Fast forward to Tuesday morning of this week, and we sent a reminder to Mr. Senn that read... "Good morning. Following up on my request for additional information on the superintendents [candidates]. Go to print this evening." A few hours passed and we still had not heard anything back from the board president; so, we called the board attorney's office. We were told a message would be given to him to give us a call. As of press time Tuesday evening, we were still waiting to hear from both!

The above was disheartening to us! The people of Elba deserve to be provided with information to help them be more informed. Hiring the next superintendent of schools for Elba is a MAJOR DECISION, and the citizens the board members represent should be able to know more about the chosen candidates and discuss those candidates with the school board representatives. This week's paper is now printed naming the candidates. The interviews will be held Monday [and possibly a decision made by the board before another edition prints]. There is a regular scheduled board meeting Tuesday evening, Sept. 17th - the day after the interviews.

Sure... we all can take the names provided, do internet searches and come up with some info on each candidate. However, wouldn't it make us feel so much better about our school board leaders if they would simply be transparent with information when asked to provide more? Not saying anyone has done anything necessarily wrong, but it would just look and feel better if all worked together instead of against one another here. This is about Elba City Schools and making decisions that are best for the school system...not personal choices or being in charge! This is about the community as a whole. Let's not forget that!!

Truthfully, we are more than happy with how things are operating under the leadership of acting superintendent Ted Watson currently. If we had our wish, we would find a way to talk him out of retirement and accepting a full-time job as Elba's next superintendent, but we realize that is not going to happen. So, instead, we encourage the board members to remember that just because they conduct interviews on Monday and then have a board meeting the

following day...well...that

does not mean a decision must be made too quickly!

If the board needs time to take a step back to think about things, and really

consider the options, there

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**Elba High School Alumni Association planning Sept. 14th breakfast meeting for all alumni and friends**

The Elba High School Alumni Association invites all alumni and friends of alumni to come to a special meeting Saturday morning, Sept. 14, at the Elba Country Club.

"We are hosting a Saturday breakfast meeting this year for homecoming for our alumni and all friends of Elba City Schools," said Elba High School Alumni Association president Linda Hodge. "This will be a great opportunity for alumni and those who support the school system to hear the many things the alumni association does to support Elba City Schools while enjoying breakfast prepared by Elba County Club chef Anthony Shiffer."

Gathering time for the meeting will be 8:30 a.m., breakfast will begin at 9 a.m., and Hodge said the meeting should be over by 10 a.m.

The Elba High School Alumni Association membership fee is only \$20 per year, and those who join annually help make all this possible. Membership is not just limited to alum...

## A Note of Thanks

The Family of Perry R. Stinson, Jr. would like to say "Thank You" for all the love shown to us during our time of loss of our loved one. We appreciate all the phone calls, the visits, the food, flowers, the smiles and hugs.

Thank You!  
Fannie Folmar Family  
and the Stinson Family  
9/12-pd

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of Elba will hold a public hearing on Monday, September 23, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at the City of Elba City Hall located at 200 Buford Street, Elba, Alabama to discuss the City's submission of an application for the Fiscal Year 2024 CDBG Economic Development Infrastructure program. The primary purpose of the hearing is to solicit citizens' input on a project that will benefit a company by providing water infrastructure to serve the facility.

All citizens are encouraged to attend in order to comment on the proposed project.

For more information, or if you require special accommodations at the hearing, contact the City of Elba at (334) 897-2333, prior to the hearing.

9/12-chg

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friends of Elba alumni also welcome to join. "The alumni association officers work well together to utilize our funds the best we possibly can supporting our students and schools," Hodge said. "Anyone who donates that \$20 for the membership fee is part of each and every thing we are able to accomplish for Elba City Schools!"

Again, the alumni association meeting will be Saturday, Sept. 14, at the Elba County Club beginning at 8:30 a.m. The country club is located at 1477 Country Club Way in Elba.

## ROUND AND ABOUT w/ ERIA'S DAUGHTER 334-282-2200

Scripture: Psalm 23:

### Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Mary Sue Dawson, Wiley Brooks, Michael M. Manning, Yazmin McNair, Families of the late Tony Hooks, Vernetter Purvis, Dewight Belcher, Vincent Smith, Theresa Irizarry

### September Birthdays

Victoria S. Florence 9/14  
Deana Cole 9/16  
Ollie R. Peterson 9/16  
Heather N. Knight 9/17  
Jonathan Lockett 9/18  
Wallace Daniels Sr. 9/18  
Kennedy Nelson 9/19  
Stacy Faison 9/20  
Jeanette Tillis 9/20  
Charlotte Flowers 9/22  
Otis Johnson 9/22

### To Be Content

Many people have been caught up in the craze known as "lottery fever" and have spent huge (and unnecessary) amounts of money in trying to find a cure. However, a Kentucky newspaper reporter found some people who were not at all swept up in the enthusiasm. The reporter interviewed one lady who claimed that all that money could be more trouble than it's really worth. "Look at

all the wealthy people who are still unhappy."

Laster the reporter talked with a man who said, "Frankly, what am I supposed to do with all those millions of dollars? I can't think of anything else I really need. I'm content." Obviously, this reporter had talked to two very astute people. It simply doesn't matter how much you have if you are discontented, and it doesn't matter how little you have if you are contented.

Note that Paul said he had learned to be content. It was not something that came naturally to him. More than likely it does not come naturally to any of us, but we can learn contentment. We can do so in the same way Paul learned it - by enrollment in the school of Christian living. Here one learns not only contentment, but a host of other virtues that make one "educated" in the subjects that matter most. - R.C.S.

### Question / Answer Section Q/A for the Week of 9/12/24

Q: During the reign of Ahaz, two king "went up toward Jerusalem to war against it." Who were they?  
A: Rezin of Syria / Pekah of Israel [Isaiah 7:1]

Q: Who said, "I will not ask, neither will I tempt the Lord."  
A: Ahaz [Isaiah 7:12]

### Thought to Remember Prayer is a kind of calling home every day

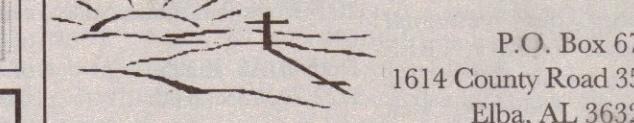
### Questions for the Week of 9/19/24

Q: Who told Gideon, "the Lord is with thee, thou mighty man of valor."  
Q: How many men were in Gideon's Army just before they were tested at the waters?  
Q: How many men were left after the test?

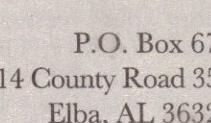
Today is a good day! Be grateful.  
Eria's Daughter, Sue

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Heath Wyrosdick, Funeral Director/Embalmer

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Helping Teenagers Cope with Grief

Each year thousands of teenagers experience the death of someone they love. When a parent, sibling, friend or relative dies, teens feel the overwhelming loss of a someone who helped shape their fragile self-identities. And these feelings about the death become a part of their lives forever.

Caring adults, whether parents, teachers, counselors or friends, can help teens during this time. If adults are open, honest and loving, experiencing the loss of someone loved can be a chance for young people to learn about both the joy and pain that comes from caring deeply for others.

Many Teens are Told to "Be Strong". Sad to say, many adults who lack understanding of their experience discourage teens from sharing their grief. Bereaved teens give out all kinds of signs that they are struggling with complex feelings, yet are often pressured to act as if they are doing better than they really are.

When a parent dies, many teens are told to "be strong" and "carry on" for the surviving parent. They may not know if they will survive themselves, let alone be able to support someone else. Obviously, these kinds of conflicts hinder the "work of mourning".

Teens Often Experience Sudden Deaths

The grief teens experience often comes suddenly and unexpectedly. A parent may die of a sudden heart attack, a brother or sister may be killed in an auto accident, or a friend may commit suicide. The very nature of these deaths often results in a prolonged and heightened sense of unreality.

Feeling dazed or numb when someone loved dies is often part of the grieving teen's early experience. This numbness serves a valuable purpose: it gives their emotions time to catch up with what their mind has been told. This feeling helps insulate them from the reality of the death until they are more able to tolerate what they don't want to believe.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225

## Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com

### CLYDE ROBERT LANEY

Mr. Clyde Robert Laney, age 79, a cherished husband, father, and grandfather, died peacefully Monday, Sept. 2, 2024.



friends from 2:00 PM until service time.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Putnam County Council on Aging, 1425 E. 4th Street, Ottawa, OH 45875 or the charity of the donor's choice.

Survivors include his father: Gerald Mack Free, mother: Sara (Boswell) Free, and stepmother, Diane Free, all of Elba; his wife: Doneta Knippen Ottoville, Ohio; his son-in-laws: Janice (Charles) Pohlman of Delphos, Karen (Dennis) Ricker of Ottoville, Deb (Tim) Verhoff of Kalida, Kevin (Cindy) Knippen of Ottoville, Mike (Jackie Rose) Knippen of Ottoville and Rita (Patrick) Klosterman of Brookville; 19 nieces and nephews; 30 great-nieces and great-nephews, with 1 on the way; and his two dear sisters, Martha Smith and Gail James.

Clyde was a devoted husband to his beloved wife, Carol, with whom he shared 46 years of love and companionship. He was a proud father to his two daughters, Ashley and Angie, and a loving father-in-law to Ashley's husband, John. His greatest joy was his role as a grandfather to Courtney, Karis, and Angela Batchelor, Hannah, Eve, Lillie, and William Driscoll.

Clyde is also survived by his wife, Carol, with whom he shared 46 years of love and companionship. He was a proud father to his two daughters, Ashley and Angie, and a loving father-in-law to Ashley's husband, John. His greatest joy was his role as a grandfather to Courtney, Karis, and Angela Batchelor, Hannah, Eve, Lillie, and William Driscoll.

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Clyde was also

**CLASSIFIEDS****The Elba Clipper**

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Selling All Types of Construction Equipment, including: Dozers, Excavators, Motor Graders, Rubber-tired Loaders, Backhoes, Skid Steers, Compaction Eq., Also selling Dump Trucks, Truck Tractors, Specialty Trailers, Forklifts, Logging Equip., Farm Tractors, Pickups, Vehicles, Attachments, Misc. & Much More!Deanco Auction 601-656-9768 www.deanc auction.com  
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**LEGAL NOTICES:**Public Notices also are posted on the websites: [www.elba-clipper.com](http://www.elba-clipper.com) and [www.alabamapublicnotices.com](http://www.alabamapublicnotices.com) at no extra charge

**IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA Enterprise Division**

**IN RE: The estate of GUY JOHNSON, Deceased.**  
CASE NO.: PR 2024-122

## COMMUNITY NEWS



It's Homecoming Week in Elba, and several members of the Elba High School Class of 1966 gathered Tuesday morning, Sept. 10, at Ms. Linda's cafe on the square in Elba for breakfast and fellowship. Those in attendance said they enjoyed great food, fellowship and just visiting with one another as they reminisced on their days as students at Elba City Schools. Those pictured include: Eddie Thompson, Terry Calhoun, Neal Hutto, Jerome Blackmon, David Blackmon, Harry Young, Kenneth Baker, Bobby Edmondson, Sara Warr Strong, and John Lawless (member of the Class of 1967).

## LEGAL NOTICES (cont'd from Page 4)

### IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of CHARLES L. MARTIN, JR., Deceased Case No.: PR-2024-151

#### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to Terry Holley, Personal Representative, on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, by the Honorable Toby L. Seay, Judge of Probate Court of Geneva County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

DONE this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson  
Jodee R. Thompson, Probate Judge  
8/29/9/5&12-pd.

### IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF JAMES RICKY HATAWAY, DECEASED. CASE NO. PC-2024-025

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, by the Hon. Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Elba Division, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Lejune Davis  
Lejune Davis  
8/29/9/5&12-pd.

#### NOTICE OF IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

PROBATE COURT OF GENEVA COUNTY CASE NO 24-805

ESTATE OF REBECCA FAY KETCHEM, Deceased

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to Terry Holley, Personal Representative, on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, by the Honorable Toby L. Seay, Judge of Probate Court of Geneva County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR GENEVA COUNTY, ALABAMA Case No.: 2024-792

IN RE: The Estate of SHIRLEY RILEY WOODHAM, Deceased. Case No.: 2024-792

IN RE: The Estate of SHIRLEY RILEY WOODHAM, Deceased.

IN RE: The Estate of SHIRLEY RILEY WOODHAM, Deceased.

IN THE MATTER OF: NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE THAT Letters Testamentary of the Estate of Shirley Riley Woodham, deceased, have been granted to Wesley Earl Woodham, on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, by the Honorable Toby Seay, Judge of the Probate Court of Geneva County, Alabama.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Wesley Earl Woodham  
Wesley Earl Woodham Petitioner

Unity Law, LLC  
Preston Register, Attorney  
256 Honeysuckle Rd., Suite 15  
Dothan, Alabama 36305  
(334) 678-0100  
9/5,12&19-chg.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF GENEVA COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of RANDOLPH CALDWELL, Respondent.

NOTICE OF HEARING To: TUNISHA THIGPEN, LORRAINE DIAZ, and

other children of Randolph Caldwell

You are hereby given notice that a Petition for Letters of Guardianship has been filed by Eloisa Regidor. The 8<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. has been appointed the day for the hearing of the same at the Coffee County Courthouse, Elba Division, Alabama, at which time you may appear and contest same, if you see proper.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson  
Hon. Jodee R. Thompson  
Probate Judge

/s/ Alfred J. Danner  
Attorney for Petitioner  
Alfred J. Danner  
308 E. Campbell Ave.  
Geneva, Alabama 36340  
9/12-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF: NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE THAT Letters Testamentary of the Estate of Shirley Riley Woodham, deceased, have been granted to Wesley Earl Woodham, on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024, by the Honorable Toby Seay, Judge of the Probate Court of Geneva County, Alabama.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Wesley Earl Woodham  
Wesley Earl Woodham Petitioner

Unity Law, LLC  
Preston Register, Attorney  
256 Honeysuckle Rd., Suite 15  
Dothan, Alabama 36305  
(334) 678-0100  
9/5,12&19-chg.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR GENEVA COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN RE: The Estate of Josephina Rider Dean, Deceased Case No: 24-807

NOTICE OF COURT PROCEEDINGS

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF Maxwell Neal Brown, Jr., Deceased.

#### CASE NO. PR-2024-157

#### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2024, by the Honorable Jodee Rowe Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Witness my hand this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2024,  
/s/ Douglas Blake Qualls  
Personal Representative  
9/12,19,&26-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION CASE NO: PC 2024-042

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BRUCE EUGENE DURGA, Deceased.

IN RE: THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JUANITA WOODY, DECEASED DOCKET NO: PR-2024-126

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATE

To: Elizabeth Lou Durga  
whereabouts unknown  
Tammy Sue Durga  
whereabouts unknown

Please take notice that on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024 a Petition for Letters of Administration on the Estate of Bruce Eugene Durga, Deceased, was filed in the aforesaid Probate Court by Lynnie Durga, as Petitioner, to be named as administrator of said estate; and that the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2024, at 9:00 o'clock A.M. has been appointed as the day for hearing said petition, at which time you may appear and contest same, if you deem it proper to do so.

GIVEN under my hand and seal of the Court this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024.  
/s/ Jodee R. Thompson  
Jodee R. Thompson  
Judge of Probate  
9/12,19,&26-pd.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, ALABAMA CASE NO: DR-2024-000169.00

LAUREN FREEMAN, PLAINTIFF VS. RICHARD WAYNE LEGER, JR., DEFENDANT.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

To: Richard Wayne Leger, Jr., Whose Whereabouts Are Unknown

You are notified that a Divorce Complaint has been filed in the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Alabama against you and you must answer the same within (30) days of the last publication, which will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2024, or thereafter a default may be rendered against you.

This the 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024.  
/s/ Lauren Freeman,  
Plaintiff

9/12,19,&26&10/3-pd.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

To: Richard Wayne Leger, Jr., Whose Whereabouts Are Unknown

You are notified that a Divorce Complaint has been filed in the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Alabama against you and you must answer the same within (30) days of the last publication, which will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2024, or thereafter a default may be rendered against you.

This the 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024.  
/s/ Lauren Freeman,  
Plaintiff

9/12,19,&26&10/3-pd.

Please join us to celebrate

## Al English's 75th Birthday

SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2024  
1:00 - 3:30 PM  
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## SPORTS NEWS

### Views From The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

*Our grandson Lawson celebrated his 14<sup>th</sup> birthday over the weekend with a bowling party, and while there were many more gutter balls than strikes, Lawson and his friends had a blast and it was great to see a group of teenagers having fun and enjoying being together. I know lots of things change with age, but friends are forever, and Lawson is blessed to have so many teens he can call friends.*

#### For what it is worth....

\*\*\* All the Elba fans that have been saying there is no reason to worry about the defense since the offense always scores a lot of points were proven wrong Friday night when the Tigers scored 78 points and still lost 80-78! The Elba defense was exposed in the 49-22 loss to Glenwood in week two, and McKenzie took advantage of its defensive problems as the visitors scored almost at will to score the most points the Tigers have allowed in 103 years of playing football. The defense has now allowed an average of over 50 points a game in its three outings, including an average of over 64 points a game the last two weeks, and for the second straight week gave up over 300 yards passing. I know the players and coaches all work hard on the defensive side of the ball, but until someone can figure something out the high-powered offense may have to find yet another gear if more wins are to come. After all, when you play in the highest scoring high school football game ever played in the state and don't win, there are obvious problems that must get immediate attention.

*Speaking of wins*, while the loss last week was the first region setback of the season and there are a lot of games left on the schedule, all of the sudden the Tigers have many fans wondering if they can regroup and even post a winning record. After three weeks, and two straight losses at home, there is no doubt Elba will be the underdog in upcoming games against Brantley, Goshen and Georgiana, with the Florala game labeled a toss-up. The Tigers will be favored this week in their homecoming game against Kinston and should also be heavy favorites against Red Level and Pleasant Home. However, if those predictions hold true it would mean the Tigers would be heading for a possible 5-5 record, and need a late-season win just to make the playoffs. Again, I know what happened Friday night was a shocker and the sun came back out Monday morning, but for the Elba Tigers the time to regroup and rededicate themselves as a winning team is now, because all their opponents see the blood in the water and can't wait for their shot at payback.

*On a positive note*, Elba's Alvin Henderson continued to rewrite the high school record book last week as he set a new record for touchdowns scored and points scored in a single game. The star running back had to get some rest late in the game after carrying the load in the second half and missed a couple of key snaps, but with seven games left in the regular season there is no purpose in taking a chance on an injury, and hopefully he will be back at full speed this week in what is now a 'must win' situation.

*Before changing the subject* from the Elba-McKenzie game, I have to at least make a statement about the officiating. I know we aren't supposed to criticize sports officials and I guess to some they may have done a creditable job. However, from where I sat they seemed intent on making as many calls as possible, whether they were sure or not what had happened, and making it clear they were in complete charge at all times. I know the two teams put their names in the record books with the final score and Alvin Henderson continued his rewrite of the book, but the refs weren't to be denied and may have also made the book as they tossed a total of 36 penalty flags for a total of 315 yards. As a former high school official I will admit refs can throw a flag on almost every play, but most officials try to keep control of the game without the flags and those are the ones that coaches appreciate. I honestly believe the crew in Elba on Friday night had no real understanding of the game of football and were just there to throw as many flags as possible in an attempt to impress the fans with their knowledge of the game.

\*\*\* It was just another so-so week of high school football action for area teams as two of the four managed to post region wins. Brantley made it look easy as the Bulldogs splashed their way to a 39-0 homecoming win over Pleasant Home, in a game that wasn't as close as the score may indicate, while Kinston buried the pains of two tough losses with a solid 38-0 region win over Red Level in which the Bulldogs again ran head first into anything that got in their way, Zion Chapel ran out of gas late and suffered its first loss in a 44-21 loss to high-scoring Goshen, and New Brockton was blanked in the second half after a big first two quarters on offense in a gut wrenching 30-27 region loss to Opp.

\*\*\* It was an exciting week of high school football action across the state as the region wars began in all seven classifications. \* Class 1A – third-ranked Elba and tenth-ranked Florala were both upset in their region openers, while top-ranked Wadley flattened Fayetteville 61-14 and second-ranked Leroy got back on track with

a 40-12 win over McIntosh. Closer to home, Georgiana made some noise in a 40-8 romp past Florala, and Sweet Water escaped with a 6-0 win over Millry. \* Class 2A – Top-ranked Pisgah slapped Section 55-14 and number two Highland Home coasted past Barbour County 54-0, while closer to home Ariton outscored Houston County 48-28, Cottonwood crushed Providence Christian 58-6, G.W. Long whipped winless Samson 34-0, Geneva County improved to 3-0 with a 39-22 win over Abbeville, and Pike Lib also improved to 3-0 with an easy 40-0 win over Calhoun. \* Class 3A – Top-ranked T.R. Miller mauled Monroe County 56-0 and number two Gordo humbled Hanceville 54-3, while closer to home Houston Academy was upset by Montgomery Academy 12-10, Wicksburg blanked Slocomb 28-0 and Northside Methodist was sacrificed by Alabama Christian 56-7. \* Class 4A – Top-ranked Jackson clobbered Escambia County 43-13 and number two Pleasant Grove flattened Fairfield 49-13, while closer to home Straughn dumped Daleville 14-0, Pike County scored late to edge past Geneva 21-15, and Ashford got past Dale County 14-6. \* Class 5A – Top-ranked Guntersville bopped Brewer 52-22 and number two Montgomery Catholic eased past Eufaula 28-0, while closer to home Andalusia hammered Headland 24-6, Charles Henderson got past Greenville 18-14, and Carroll remained winless with a 31-7 road loss at Elmore County. \* Class 6A – Top-ranked Saraland kicked sand on Gulf Shores 31-7 and number two Parker pounded Gardendale 35-7, while closer to home Rehobeth was popped by Pike Road 40-19. \* Class 7A – Top-ranked Central Phenix City smothered Smiths Station 69-15 and number two Enterprise dumped Dothan 28-21, while closer to home Auburn slipped past Opelika 28-21 and Carver jabbed JAG 46-6.

\*\*\* It wasn't the best of weekends for many college fans across the state as Troy got blown out on the road 38-17 by Memphis to fall to 0-2 for the first time in ten years, Auburn found out it is still need of a winner at quarterback in its disappointing 21-14 homefield loss to Cal, and even though it wasn't pretty, Alabama scored three late touchdowns to claim a 42-16 win at Saban Field over South Florida. The Trojans from just up the road have won a lot of big games in recent years that could have easily gone the other way and karma may be catching up under their newest coach, while the Tigers turned the ball over five times, including four interceptions, and wasted a winning performance by the defense, again. As for the Tide, they are left with a lot to fix after its less than impressive win, especially the penalties called on the offensive line and its inability to protect the quarterback.

\*\*\* Ye Ole Polish Prognosticator hit on 29 of his 34 picks last week, but all he wanted to talk about when he came by to drop off this week's picks was last week's Elba-McKenzie game that lasted almost four hours. The local guesspert said there were three teams on the field – Elba, McKenzie and the refs, and said that Elba came in third. I've never heard anything like that, but he has been around for a while and does look at things a little different.

### Elba hosts Kinston for homecoming

The Elba Tigers will celebrate 'Homecoming' on Friday night when they host the Kinston Bulldogs, in the renewal of a cross-country rivalry.

Elba owns a 7-0 all-time record against Kinston and won last season 42-7.

Kinston has one of its better teams in years and has some really good athletes that can make plays all over the field," said Elba's Coach Marc Sieving. "Even though they lost their first two games, they could have easily won them both, and are just solid in all areas. We know we will have our hands full."

Elba will carry a 1-2 record into the game after a 50-22 season opening win over Luverne and back-to-

Kinston volleyball teams enjoying early season success on the court

The Kinston Volleyball teams have enjoyed early season success on the court, and in a recent match with Zion Chapel all three Kinston teams got victories.

The Junior High team won its match in two sets 25-5, 25-5 over the Lady Rebels. Madi Phillips had 9 sets, 19 serves with 7 aces and 12 passes to lead the Junior High Lady 'Dawgs while Maggie Johnson had 6 hits and 1 kill. This moved the Junior High team to 4-0 on the season.

The JV Lady 'Dawgs also defeated Zion Chapel in two sets 25-20 and 25-23 to move their season record to 2-2. River Riley had 17 sets, Trinity Carney had one block and 4 aces on 15 serves, Adalyn Wise had 6 hits and 1 kill, and Rylie Rhoades had 27 passes.

The Varsity Lady 'Dawgs moved to 6-2 on the season with a four-set win over Zion Chapel [25-22, 25-7, 20-25, 25-19]. Lillie Sumblin accounted for 5 aces on 20 serves and 22 sets, and Sage Beck had 8 hits, 3 kills, and 2 blocks.

In matches against Pleasant Home, all three Kinston teams won. The Junior High team won in two sets 25-14 and 25-15, the Junior Varsity team won in two sets 25-14

Anyway, here is this week's fearless forecast....

#### ELBA VS. KINSTON

The Pea River felines will be hoping for clear skies this week when they take the field to try to get back in the region race. The felines are sitting at the back of the pack after only one week's action and need a win to at least get back within view of the leaders, and the guess here is this is the week they move up at least one notch.

#### ELBA 38 KINSTON 26

#### BRANTLEY VS. RED LEVEL

The bulldogs from across the creek are barking loudly and hope to keep the folks up a little late that hang out in the woods over in Covington County. It should get quiet after a couple of hours of non-stop barking, but until then look out for the dogs to make lots of noise.

#### BRANTLEY 46 RED LEVEL 0

#### ZION CHAPEL VS. HIGHLAND HOME

The troops from up at Fort Jack have plans to invade a road airport this weekend across the county line looking to ground a fleet of flyboys that have been buzzing local teams throughout the season. While they may get off a shot or two at the flyboys, the guess here is that they don't have enough ammo to claim a victory.

#### HIGHLAND HOME 41 ZION CHAPEL 7

#### NEW BROCKTON VS. DALEVILLE

The roosters from over near the bypass are in a bad mood after watching two wins slip through their claws the last two weeks, and this week will head out on a bird hunt in an effort to ease the pain and have a little fun. While they may not bag as many birds as they hope, they should get more than enough to celebrate.

#### NEW BROCKTON 28 DALEVILLE 20

#### OTHER PICKS:

Florala 47 Pleasant Home 12

Georgiana 36 McKenzie 22

Ariton 40 Abbeville 26

Cottonwood 50 Houston County 6

Geneva County 34 G.W. Long 32

Providence Ch. 24 Samson 7

Goshen 56 Calhoun 0

Luverne 21 Pike Lib 20

T.R. Miller 35 Flomaton 7

Hillcrest 27 Excel 13

Houston Academy 38 Slocomb 8

Montgomery Ac. 24 Wicksburg 3

Geneva 22 Ashford 20

Opp 28 Pike County 27

Dale County 21 Straughn 10

Andalusia 21 Greenville 12

Eufaula 31 Headland 21

Auburn 21 Enterprise 17

Opelika 42 JAG 6

Carver 40 Smiths Station 3

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Adult Protective  
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ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF  
**HUMAN  
RESOURCES**

## SCHEDULES

### VOLLEYBALL

**Thursday, Sept. 12**

McKenzie at Elba JV-V (4:00)

Zion Chapel at Kinston JR-JV-V (4:00)

Red Level at Brantley JR-JV-V (4:00)

Opp at New Brockton JR-JV-V (4:00)

**Saturday, Sept. 14**

Enterprise Invitational Tourney

(Kinston, New Brockton)

**Mondays, Sept. 16**

Goshen at Brantley JR-JV-V (4:00)

Geneva County at New Brockton JV-V (4:00)

**Tuesday, Sept. 17**

Red Level at Elba JV-V (4:00)

Kinston at Andalusia JR-JV-V (4:00)

Zion Chapel at Luverne JR-JV-V (4:00)

New Brockton Jr - Tri-Match,

Dauphin/Coppinville

**Thursday, Sept. 19**

Brantley at Elba JV-V (4:00)

Goshen at Kinston JR-JV-V (4:00)

New Brockton at Zion Chapel JR-JV-V (4:00)

**JV FOOTBALL**

**Monday, Sept. 16**

Elba at Kinston (6:00)

Zion Chapel at Samson (6:00)

Goshen at Brantley (6:00)

D.A. Smith at New Brockton (5:30)

**CROSS COUNTRY**

**Thursday, Sept. 12**

New Brockton, at Phenix City

## SPORTS NEWS

### *Tigers outscored 80-78 in soggy four overtime region loss to McKenzie*

*By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor  
Photos by BC Sports Photography*

The Elba Tigers and McKenzie Tigers got tangled up in a catfight Friday night on Mack Wood Field, in Elba, and in a game that set a state record for points scored and saw the region rivals combine for 1,205 yards in total offense, it was McKenzie that left the field after four quarters and four overtimes with a wild 80-78 win.

Elba got on the scoreboard first with 7:46 left in the opening quarter on a 47-yard run by Alvin Henderson to grab a 6-0 lead, and the hometown Tigers upped their lead to 14-0 with 1:59 remaining in the quarter when Henderson capped an eight-play, sixty-yard drive with a 2-yard burst up the middle. Cayden Adkins rushed for the two-point conversion as Elba appeared to take command.

McKenzie, which lost three fumbles in the first quarter, finally got a break early in the second quarter with a pass interception near midfield, and two plays later cashed in the turnover when Ziquayvion Jackson hit Jahmarren Jackson with a 36-yard touchdown toss to cut the Elba lead to 14-6 with 11:22 left in the quarter.

McKenzie began its next possession at its own 34-yardline after an Elba fumble and went 66 yards in 10 plays to pull even on the scoreboard. The score came on a 17-yard pass from Jackson to Skylar Sanders, and the same duo hooked up for the two-point conversion as McKenzie caught Elba at 14-14 with 5:40 remaining in the half.

Elba had an apparent touchdown run wiped off by a penalty flag on its ensuing possession and then turned the ball over on downs at the McKenzie 12-yardline with 43-seconds left on the clock after an unsuccessful fourth down run.

McKenzie needed only four plays and 34-seconds to cover the 88 yards to the endzone, as a 33-yard run by Ayden Willsey on first down gave the visiting Tigers room to operate, and two plays later Jackson found Sanders and fired a strike for a 39-yard touchdown. A two-point pass missed its target, but with 9-seconds left in the half McKenzie had scored twenty unanswered points to take a 20-14 halftime advantage.

Elba received the second half kickoff and needed only three plays to catch McKenzie, as Alvin Henderson got the carry on all three snaps and capped the drive with a 26-yard scoring scamper. A two-point run failed to cross the goal line, but with 11:01 left in the third quarter Elba had pulled even at 20-20.

McKenzie began its ensuing possession at its own 35-yardline and in four plays was back on top. Ziquayvion Jackson completed three of four passes for 75 yards on the scoring drive, which was capped by a 60-yard touchdown toss to Skylar Sanders. Jackson hit Jahmarren Jackson with a two-point pass and with 9:10 remaining in the quarter McKenzie was back on top 28-20.

Elba lost a fumble at the McKenzie 33-yardline on its next possession and McKenzie again took advantage of the turnover to reach the endzone. Ayden Willsey rushed for 28 yards on five carries on the drive and scored the touchdown on a 1-yard run. A two-point run failed; however, with 4:13 left in the third quarter McKenzie had upped its lead to 34-20.

Elba went 47 yards on its next possession after a 26-yard kickoff return by Henderson to cut into the McKenzie lead, with Henderson rushing for all 47 yards and scoring the touchdown on a 3-yard run on the final play of the quarter. A two-point run again failed to produce points, but Elba was within 34-26 heading into the fourth quarter.

McKenzie wasn't impressed with the Elba score and went 65 yards in seven plays on its ensuing series to stretch its lead. Jackson passed for 44 yards and scored on a 2-yard run to put McKenzie into the endzone, and passed to Jahmarren Jackson for the two-point conversion as its lead grew to 42-26 with 9:41 remaining.

Elba scored on the first play of its ensuing series on a 45-yard run by Alvin Henderson, and Henderson also ran in the two-point conversion to pull Elba within 42-34 with 9:29 left on the clock, and the hometown Tigers scored their second touchdown in one minute and thirty-four seconds on a 20-yard run by Henderson after a McKenzie fumble, and Henderson again ran in the two-point conversion as Elba caught McKenzie at 42-42 with 7:55 still left in the quarter.

Elba failed to cash in an opportunity to grab the lead after a fumbled snap on a punt set the hometown Tigers up at the McKenzie 25-yardline, and McKenzie again dialed long distance as it went 84 yards in seven plays to regain the lead. An 11-yard gain on a faked punt on fourth down and ten was the key play in the long scoring drive, while the score came on a 49-yard touchdown pass from Jackson to Sanders as McKenzie took a 48-42 lead with 2:56 remaining on the clock.

Elba began its ensuing series at its own 35-yardline and after a penalty on first down went 75 yards in only four

plays to again catch McKenzie. Cayden Adkins rushed for 21 yards on two carries to help lead Elba down the field, while Henderson added 61 yards on two carries and scored the touchdown on a 44-yard gallop down the sidelines. A two-point run was unsuccessful, and with 1:25 left on the clock the score was tied at 48-48.

Elba regained possession at the McKenzie 41-yardline after a fourth down gamble, and quickly moved to the McKenzie 17-yardline after a 24-yard run by Henderson. However, the hometown Tigers failed to cash in the scoring opportunity as the game went into overtime tied at 48-48.

Alvin Henderson scored on a 2-yard run and added the two-point conversion to put Elba on top 56-48 in the first overtime, but McKenzie scored on a 10-yard pass from Jackson to Levi Lee and Jackson then passed to Sanders for the two-point conversion as the teams went into overtime number two tied at 56-56.

Jackson scored on a 10-yard run and hooked up with Lee for the two-point conversion in the second overtime as McKenzie went up 64-56. However, Elba answered the score and pulled even at 64-64 when Henderson scored on a 4-yard run and Adkins batted over for the two-point conversion.

Cayden Adkins scored on a 2-yard run and also ran in the two-point conversion in the third extra period to put Elba ahead 72-64, but McKenzie again had an answer and pulled even at 72-72 on an 11-yard fourth down run by Jackson, who also ran in the two-point play.

Willsey scored on a 1-yard run in the fourth overtime and Jackson passed to Jackson for the two-point conversion to put McKenzie on top 80-72, and while Elba did answer the touchdown on a 6-yard run by Adkins, it was stopped on the ensuing two-point conversion as McKenzie left the field with the 80-78 region win.

Alvin Henderson rushed for 446 yards and 9 touchdowns on 41 carries and completed one pass for 25 yards to lead the Elba offense, while Cayden Adkins rushed for 105 yards and 2 td's on 20 carries.

Ziquayvion Jackson rushed for 108 yards and 3 td's on 10 carries and completed 19 of 35 passes for 346 yards and 6 td's to lead McKenzie, while Ayden Willsey rushed for 138 yards and 2 td's on 21 carries, Skylar Sanders caught 7 passes for 190 yards and 4 td's, Jahmarren Jackson caught 5 passes for 75 yards and 1 td, and Levi Lee had 3 catches for 59 yards and 1 td.



**Elba Tigers Mateo Jiminez (44) and Tyeson Davis (88)** combine to bring down a McKenzie runner in last week's region clash. The Tigers will host Kinston Friday night to close homecoming festivities.



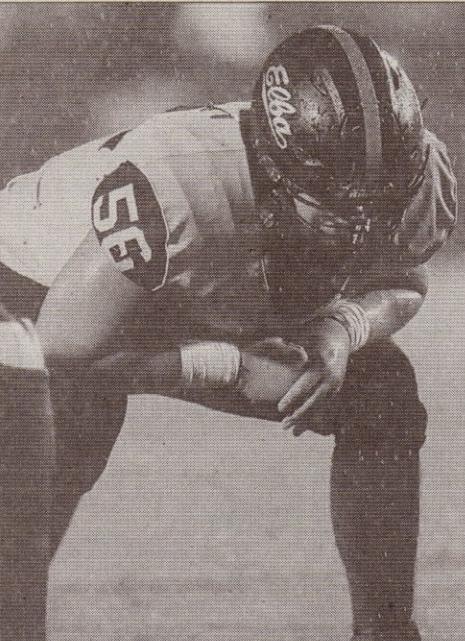
**Elba Tiger Alvin Henderson (2)** applies the brakes as he spots a hole in the McKenzie defense. Henderson rushed for 446 yards and 9 touchdowns on 41 carries and completed one pass for 25 yards last week.

#### *The yardstick....*

E	M
24 1st Downs	25
70-581 Rushes-Yds.	33-253
25 Passing Yds.	346
606 Total Offense	599
1-5-1 Passes	19-35-0
6/2 Fumbles/Lost	5/4
1-35 Punts-Ave.	1-32



**Elba Tiger cheerleader Lady Stinson** keeps the spirit despite a steady downpour in last week's region loss to McKenzie.

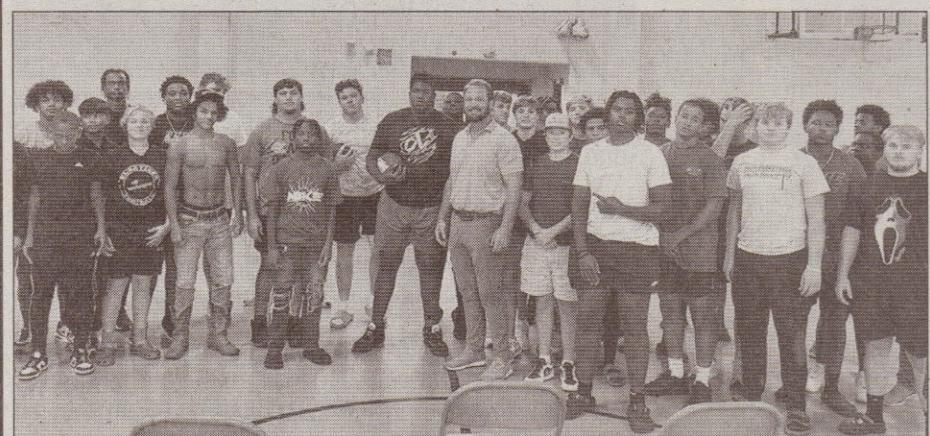


**Elba Tiger Michael Remley (56)** is ready to take command at the line of scrimmage in prep football action.



**Elba Tiger Cayden Adkins (10)** carries the 'stars and stripes' onto the field to lead in the Tigers.

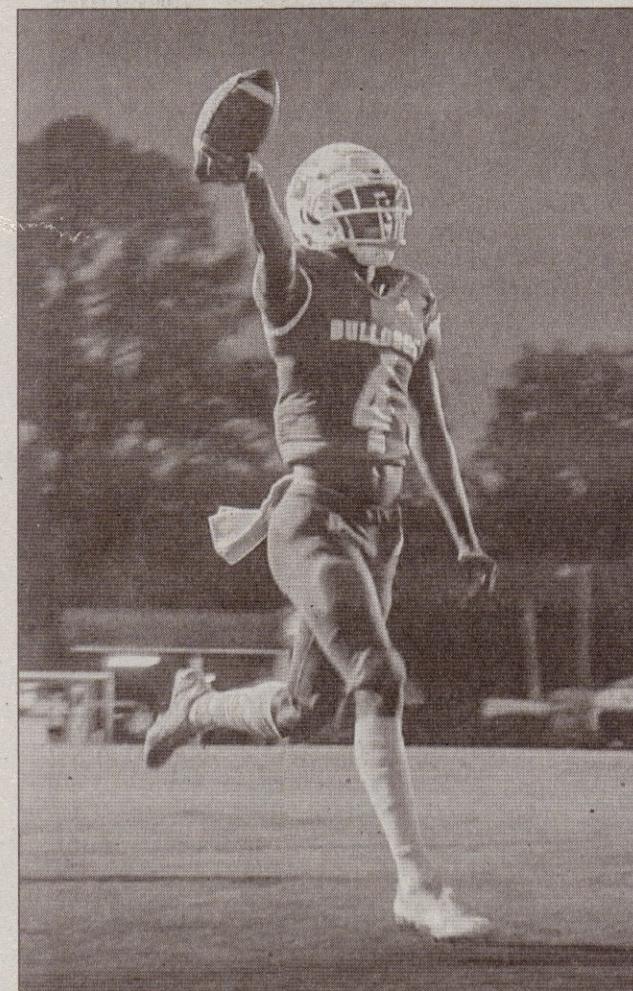
#### **Elba Tigers Player of the Week**



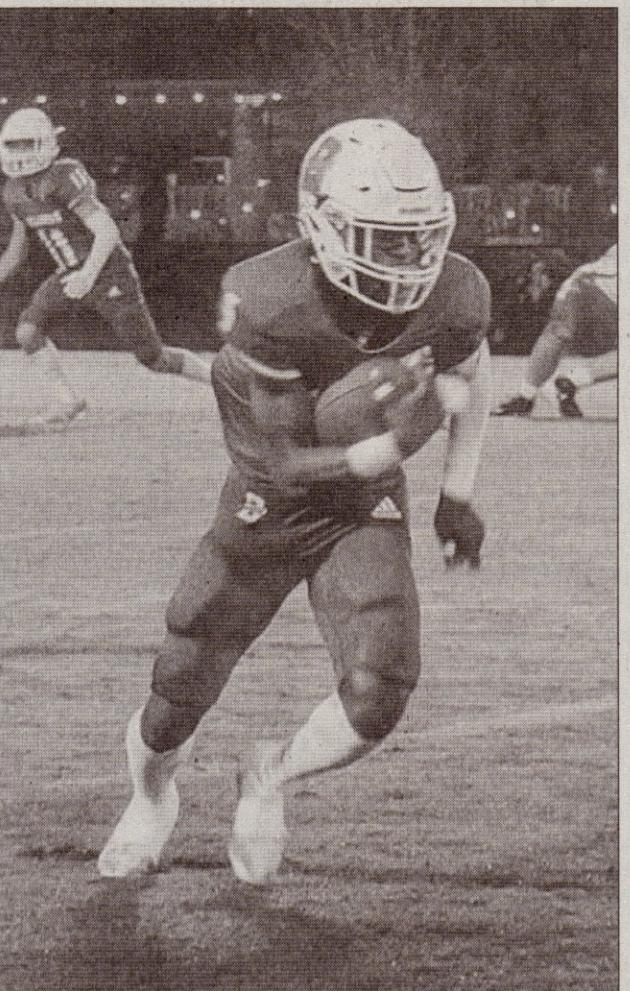
**Emanuel Cooks** is the ALFA Insurance Ralston Moore Agency Week Three 'Player of the Week' for the Elba Tigers!

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## SPORTS NEWS



**Brantley Bulldog Daylan Davis (4)** crosses the goal line after pulling in one of his three touchdown passes in last week's 39-0 win.



**Brantley Bulldog Tyler Carter (5)** heads up field for a big gain. Carter rushed for 150 yards and two touchdowns in last week's win.



**Not even a rainy night on the sidelines could dampen the spirits of the Brantley Bulldog cheerleaders in last week's 39-0 win.**

### **Brantley blanks Eagles 39-0**

*From combined reports*

*Courtesy photos*

The Brantley Bulldogs gave a wet, but happy homecoming crowd plenty to cheer about Friday night in a 39-0 region win over the Pleasant Home Eagles.

Jayden Parks completed 9 of 11 passes for 155 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Bulldogs offensively, while Tyler Carter rushed for 150 yards and two touchdowns on 10 carries and Daylan Davis caught three passes for 60 yards and three touchdowns.

Jon Harper Kilcrease had eight tackles and returned a pass interception 35 yards for a score to spark the Brantley defense to the shutout.

### In 30-27 region loss to Opp

### Gamecocks watch lead slip away on soggy field

*Statistics by Brandon White*

*Courtesy photos*

The New Brockton Gamecocks watched a region win slip away Friday night at Gamecock Stadium as the Opp Bobcats scored the game's final 14 points to escape with a 30-27 win.

New Brockton jumped out to an early 7-0 lead as the Gamecocks took the opening kickoff and went 76 yards in eight plays to reach the endzone. A 47-yard pass from Dawson Peacock to Baylon Foster was a key play in the scoring drive, while the touchdown came on a 23-yard pass from Peacock to Foster. Cayden Avalos added the extra-point and New Brockton was on top 7-0.

The Gamecocks put the ball in play near midfield on its third series after a defensive stand and this time went 56 yards in five plays to extend their lead. A 25-yard scamper by Judd Thomas on a faked punt sparked the scoring drive, with the touchdown coming on a 31-yard dash by Camrin Wolf as New Brockton upped its lead to 13-0 late in the opening quarter.

Opp cashed in a turnover to get on the scoreboard early in the second quarter on a 37-yard run by Kal Crittenton and added a two-point conversion to pull within 13-8. However, New Brockton got a turnover of its own on a fumble recovery by Peyton Collins at the Opp 23-yardline, and the Gamecocks punched it across seven plays later on a 2-yard run by Wolf. Peacock passed to Anthony Silar with a two-point pass, and with 8:51 left in the half the Gamecocks lead was up to 21-8.

Opp scored on a 2-yard run by Grady Patterson that capped a 48-yard drive on its ensuing possession and again added the two-point conversion to pull within 21-16, but the Gamecocks again answered the challenge and after a 35-yard kickoff return by Baylon Foster went 47 yards in six plays to regain command. The final score of the half came with just five seconds left on the clock on a 12-yard pass from Peacock to Silar, and while the extra-point attempt failed, New Brockton went in at intermission with a 27-16 advantage.

Opp was forced to punt on its initial series of the third

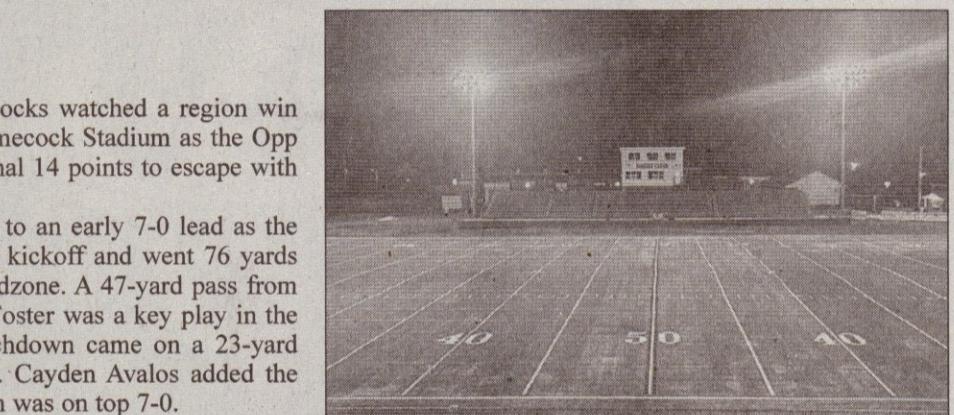
As part of Troy University Bass Fishing Team

### Avery Padgett enjoys new experiences his freshman year

As the Troy University [TU] Bass Fishing Team's 23-24 season comes to a close, Avery Padgett, of Elba, Ala., and Kasey Pemberton, of Chipley, Fla., wrap up their freshman year having had many new experiences, many successful tournaments and a few not so good. They have fished many lakes for the first time and logged many, many miles on their trucks and boats as they traveled across the United States.

The TU team fished the MLF [Major League Fishing] Trail, the Southern Collegiate Trail, the ACA [Association of Collegiate Anglers] Series, and the BASSMASTER Opens. These trails led them to Lake Sam Rayburn, Texas; Lake Dardanelle, Arkansas; Lake Hartwell, South Carolina; Pickwick Lake, Florence, Alabama; Kentucky Lake, (Tennessee/Kentucky line); Demopolis Lake, Demopolis, Alabama; Lake Eufaula, Eufaula, Alabama; Logan Martin Lake, Alabama; Neely Henry Lake, Gadsden, Alabama; Lake Douglas, Tennessee; Harris Chain of Lakes, South Florida; and Lake Tohopekaliga, Osceola County, Florida.

In September of 2023, the TU team had a suc-



**Gamecock Stadium**, in New Brockton, was all dressed up and ready for a party last week as the Gamecocks hosted the Opp Bobcats in their home opener for the 2024 football season.

quarter, but began its second possession at the New Brockton 26-yardline after a pass interception, and took advantage of the short field to cut into the Gamecocks lead. The Bobcat score came on a 1-yard run by Jaymarien Allen, and the two-point conversion was again successful as Opp closed the gap to 27-24.

Opp took advantage of a short field again in the fourth quarter and went 31 yards to take its first lead of the night. Justin Baldwin scored the Bobcat td on a 5-yard run, and while a two-point attempt failed, Opp was on top 30-27 and held on to claim the region win over the gallant Gamecocks.

Dawson Peacock completed 10 of 21 passes, with two interceptions, for 193 yards and one td to lead the Gamecocks offense, while Camrin Wolf rushed for 55 yards and two touchdowns on 16 carries, Baylon Foster had 4 catches for 97 yards, and Anthony Silar added 3 catches for 41 yards and one td. Leonardo Reyes had a forced fumble and a fumble recovery to lead the New Brockton defense and Peyton Collins also came up with a fumble recovery.

## **Area football PREVIEW**

It will be a weekend to take a road trip for all the teams in the area as the high school season enters its fourth week of action and remains in region battles.

Following is a preview of this week's games:

### **Brantley at Red Level**

The Brantley Bulldogs will be looking to remain atop the region standings when they travel to Red Level for a clash with the Red Level Tigers. Brantley owns a 46-14 series edge against the Tigers, won last season 54-13 and has won the last twenty contests against its longtime rivals.

Brantley will carry a 2-0 record into the clash after posting wins over Luverne 40-24 and Pleasant Home 39-0, while Red Level will bring a 1-1 record into the region contest with a 45-8 win over J.F. Shields and a 38-0 loss to Kinston.

### **Zion Chapel at Highland Home**

The Zion Chapel Rebels will be looking to shock the state when they travel to Highland Home for a key region battle with the Highland Home Flying Squadron. Highland Home owns a slim 12-8 series edge over the Rebels and has won the last six meetings on the field, while Zion Chapel was awarded a win on a forfeit after its last contest.

Zion Chapel will enter the region showdown with a 2-1 record after season-opening wins over Kinston 27-20 and Ellwood Christian 36-0, and a loss 44-21 loss to Goshen, while Highland Home will enter the game with a 3-0 record after posting wins over 4A Straughn 38-9, 5A Charles Henderson 24-0 and region rival Barbour County 54-0.

### **New Brockton at Daleville**

The New Brockton Gamecocks will be looking to steal a key region contest on the road when they head to Daleville to tangle with the Daleville Warhawks. The series is tied at 6-6 between the region rivals, and while the teams have split the last four meetings, Daleville posted a 28-0 win a year ago.

New Brockton will carry a disappointing 0-3 record into the game after losses to Pike Liberal Arts 35-6, Slocomb 40-34 and Opp 30-27, while Daleville will also enter the game looking for win number one after losses to Flora 30-14 and Straughn 14-0.

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For information on PrEP, visit [alabamapublichealth.gov/hivprep.html](http://alabamapublichealth.gov/hivprep.html).



See BASS, Page 9

## SPORTS NEWS



The Kinston High School 'Alma Mater' never sounded so sweet for the Bulldogs and their fans after last week's 38-0 region win over Red Level.



Kinston Bulldog fans ignored the rainy weather on Friday night and filled the stadium as the Bulldogs defeated Red Level 38-0.

### Grabs key region win

## Kinston rolls over Red Level 38-0

Statistics by W.J. Adcock  
Courtesy photos

The Kinston Bulldogs scored on their initial possession of the game to take command early and erased two weeks of frustration with a solid 38-0 homefield region win over the Red Level Tigers.

Colby Tew was the workhorse for the Bulldogs on the early scoring drive as he rushed for 31 yards on four carries and crossed the goal line on a 20-yard scamper. Gabriel Hataway ran in the two-point conversion and with 9:25 still left in the first quarter Kinston was already on top 8-0.

The Bulldogs threatened add to their lead on their next three series of the quarter, but suffered a pass interception after reaching the Red Level 25 and turned the ball over on downs at the Red Level 25-yardline and the Red Level 7-yardline as their lead remained at 8-0 after one quarter of action.

Kinston put the ball in play at the Red Level 40-yardline to begin its initial possession of the second quarter and covered the distance into the endzone in seven plays to add to its lead. Gabriel Hataway capped the short scoring drive with an 11-yard touchdown run, and Hataway also ran in the two-point conversion as the Bulldogs lead grew to 16-0 with 7:05 left in the half.

The Bulldogs began their final possession of the half at their own 34-yardline and this time went 66 yards in eight plays to again reach the endzone. Colby Tew rushed for

67 yards and scored the Kinston touchdown on a 2-yard run with 25-seconds left on the clock, and Hataway made it three for three on two-point conversions as the Bulldogs went in at the half with a 24-0 lead.

Kinston's Zavory Stanley recovered a Red Level fumble on the second half kickoff at the Tigers 40-yardline, and from there it took the Bulldogs five plays to cash in the turnover. Gabriel Hataway scored his second touchdown of the game on a 31-yard dash to climax the scoring drive, and while the extra-point attempt failed, Kinston was on top 30-0 with 9:30 remaining in the third quarter.

The Bulldogs began their next series at their own 21-yardline after a Red Level punt and needed only four plays to get back into the endzone as Colby Tew broke loose and raced 70 yards for his third touchdown of the night. Jonathan Simmons passed to Whitt Floyd for the two-point conversion, and with 2:55 left in the quarter the scoring was over on the rainy night with Kinston on top 38-0.

Colby Tew rushed for 209 yards and three touchdowns on 19 carries to lead the Bulldogs offense, while Gabriel Hataway added 96 yards and two touchdowns on 10 carries and scored three two-point conversions. Jon Simmons completed 3 of 8 passes for 38 yards. Jud Green had three catches and Whitt Floyd caught a two-point pass. On defense, Hataway had 9 tackles, including four tackles for losses and two quarterback sacks.



The scoreboard told the story last week after Kinston's 38-0 region win over Red Level.



Zion Chapel Rebels Dylan Davis (4) and Trent Elrod (45) talk things over along the sidelines during a break in the action.

## Zion Chapel drops region clash to Goshen 44-21

From combined reports  
Photos by Amanda Clark

The Zion Chapel Rebels hosted the Goshen Eagles Friday night in a key early-season region clash and battled for all four quarters in a hard fought 44-21 homefield loss.

Goshen's Tyler McLendon returned the opening kickoff 80 yards for a touchdown as the Eagles jumped out to a quick 7-0 lead. However, the Rebels bounced right back on their initial series and caught the Eagles at 7-7 after a 93-yard touchdown toss by John Foster Hamm.

A 25-yard td toss from Jayden McNabb to McLendon upped Goshen's lead to 14-7, while McNabb added a 71-yard run in the second quarter as the Eagles stretched their lead to 21-7.

Zion Chapel's Joseph LeGear returned the ensuing kickoff 90 yards for a touchdown after the Eagles third score to pull the Rebels within 21-14, but Goshen scored late in the half on a run by Szemerick Andrews and carried a 28-14 advantage in at intermission.

A safety early in the third quarter upped the Eagles lead to 30-14. However, the Rebels again came battling back and after a touchdown run by Brayden Benbow was back within striking distance at 30-21.

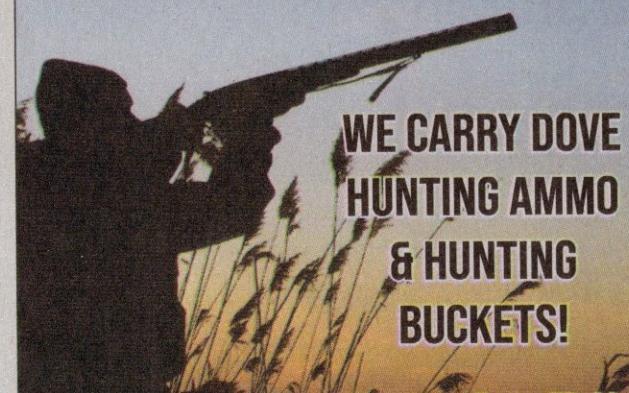
Goshen regained command in the fourth quarter and added a pair of scores to claim the 44-21 region win on the road.

Jayden McNabb was the



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## BASS

Continued from Page 8

Fischer/Barber finished fourth, Jacob/Bryant finished fifth, and Padgett/Pemberton finished 12th place. Padgett said he and his partner took a risk first thing that morning, but it did not pay off, so they just had to go fishing. They did not have their first fish in the boat until 12:00, but they managed to pull in their fifth one (the limit) before weigh in.

Their second tournament of the Southern Collegiate Bass Trail followed in February 2024 at Lake Eufaula, Alabama, which the team considers their home pond. According to team Padgett/Pemberton, this was a week of many ups and downs. Following a couple of great practice days leading up to the trial, the wind was not

their friend on tournament day. They ended up sitting in fifteenth place; congrats went to their teammates Gary Waid and Gage Sellars on their big fish win.

The TU Team finished

the regular season with

Southern Collegiate Bass

Trail at Logan Martin in

late March. The team had

some decent finishes as a

team and had a great time as

always. Padgett/Pemberton

finished 16th, the highest

team from TU.

Team Padgett/Pemberton

had a great run on the

Southern Collegiate Bass

Trail for their first season

on the collegiate level.

They finished second place,

a close margin to taking

home the number one spot.

These guys have their eyes

on the top next season.

\*\* This sports feature will be continued next week!



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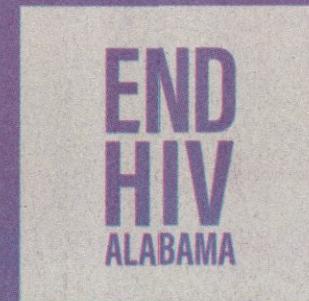
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